

THE EVENING POST.  
CITY SPECIALS.

**Holiday Goods on the installment plan.**  
John Hudson, the popular installment merchant at 930 and 932 Second street northwest, has a full supply of furniture, stoves, clocks, rugs, wall papers, and many other useful Christmas presents. His entire assortment can be bought at cash prices, or the installment plan, on easy weekly or monthly payments, to suit the purchaser.

**All Things Bright and Beautiful.**  
Illustrated GIFT BOOKS  
AT CHAS. W. TAYLOR'S,  
915 P. A. ST.

**Houghton & Co.'s Holiday Goods.**  
This representative furniture, carpet and upholstery establishment, centrally located at 1218 and 1220 P. A. street northwest, are offering ten thousand dollars' worth of elegant and stylish goods, suitable for Christmas presents, at special prices for spot cash, during this month. Ladies will please visit their new and spacious store and examine their superb line. You will find their prices are the lowest ever offered in Washington for the same class of desirable goods, which are so well adapted for holiday gifts.

**Do Not Buy**  
Your Christmas supply of Candles, Mixed Nuts, Raisins, Fruit Cakes, Florida Oranges, Malaga Grapes, etc., until you have seen our stock. Fine candles in 1/2, 1, 2 and 3 pound boxes. Fine fresh oranges, 10c, or 7 pounds, \$1.00. Dried fruit, 10c a pound. \$1.00. See it to appreciate it. Fresh and fine mixed nuts, 10c, 7 pounds, \$1.00. New layer glass, 10c, 7 pounds, \$1.00. Confectionery, powdered sugar for home use, elegant table butter, salted turkeys, dressed on sale Friday and Saturday. Give us your orders and get the best of goods at lowest prices.

**M. J. REYNOLDS,**  
417 Seventh street northwest.

**Immense bargains to be had at Hamburger's Fire and Smoke Sale.**  
**Christmas Confectionery.**  
The holidays are fast approaching and those who buy their confectionery at Hamburger's, will find it very profitable. Hamburger's confectionery is a firm of doctors who, under the name of "We, U. S. & Co.," are much more than doctors—getting rid of their patients, who comprise every variety of character, by sending them to Mud Springs, where they are treated to baths of various kinds, which give an opportunity for introducing any number of ridiculous situations.

**Rocheester for Light.**  
Chas. A. Muddiman, Gas Fitters, 1200 P. A. St.

**Fine Wines and Liquors.**  
Chr. Xander's, 900 Seventh street northwest. The most complete stock of fine wines, liquors, etc., in the city. Fine Old Whiskies of 1850-70, etc., a specialty and always a large stock. Imported from France, Germany, Italy, etc. Fine Sherries, Port, Brandy, Cognac, etc. Also Champagne, Cordon, etc. etc. etc.

**Have you seen the great show of holiday goods at Gump's?**  
It is the best.  
Ask for it. Seattle's Milwaukee Lager Beer. For sale by all leading houses.

**For Washington Dressed Beef**  
Go to John R. Kelly, stalls 625, 626 and 630. He has Market and Choice Northern Libby's. Corned beef a specialty.

**Have you been lucky to secure one of those elegant Seal Fish Coat that we sell for \$10.40? If not, come at once to Gump's.**

**"Admiral Dairy Wagon."**  
Fresh Adirondack butter, delivered every morning in 1/2, 1, 2 and 3 pound prints, 50c per lb. Also cottage cheese, butter milk and sweet milk, 5c per quart. Call on J. P. Kelly.

**X-mas Turkey.**  
Just received city barrels Philadelphia fancy Turkeys, will please anyone. Call and examine stock at  
**R. A. GOLDEN'S,**  
Fish Market, Central Market.

CITY NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

The new St. Mark's Church, at Third and A streets southeast, is nearly finished.

John King and Henry D. Barrett, inmates of the Washington Asylum, have been found guilty by a jury impeached by the Marshal.

A colored man named Lewis Assting, employed by W. H. Moore, had his leg broken yesterday by a falling roll of matting.

The Specimen Business College last night gave a pleasant literary and musical entertainment at the rooms of the Hotel.

The twentieth anniversary of John F. Reynolds' birth, No. 6, G. A. R., was celebrated by that post last night in speech-making and music at Grand Army Hall.

Professor Sheldon gave a German to his juvenile pupils last night. After some fancy dancing the ball was turned over to the older persons for a long time.

The Union Club held a meeting last night at the residence of Major H. A. Hall, 1420 Fifteenth street. Senator J. W. Daniel, Fred E. Tasker, and Miss Coe were elected members of the society.

Harry S. Frye of Loudon County, Va., was brought here last night from Brownsville, Pa., in a locked up, to await the arrival of the Virginia authorities, who want him on a charge of seduction.

At a special meeting of the Y. M. C. A. last night Mr. Charles B. Bailey was elected president to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. John G. Ames on account of ill-health. Professor Hornaday delivered a lecture on the travels through Egypt.

The following officers of the Mysterious Club were elected last night: President, John B. Daughton, re-elected; vice-president, George W. Hickey, re-elected; secretary, A. Dallas Tucker, re-elected; treasurer, E. G. Schaefer, re-elected; John Burns, re-elected; secretary, J. H. Hickey, re-elected; John Kennedy, re-elected; John M. Young, the outgoing treasurer, was presented with the gold-headed cane.

The Union Veterans' Union held a camp fire at headquarters last night in honor of General John B. Babbitt, Charles H. Carter, William O. Cronin, and J. J. Colburn of New Jersey; C. T. Pittman of Connecticut; J. A. Collins and W. D. Firth of Ohio; and John C. Cartwright of Kansas, who have come here for the purpose of pressing the per diem pension bill and the service land grant bill before Congress.

OBITUARY NOTES.

Robert P. Barbour, who died suddenly Wednesday, will be buried from the Scottish Rite Cathedral at 2 o'clock to-morrow. Mithras Lodge of Perfection, A. & A. S. R. I. B. B. French Lodge, No. 15, Washington Chapter, No. 2, and Columbia Commandery, No. 2, R. T. will be in attendance, and the interment will be at Oak Hill.

Mrs. Mary Fielder, who died Wednesday night at her home, 1011 H street, was buried from 929 Tenth street this afternoon. Mrs. Fielder was a clerk in the Sixth Auditor's office, and was quite well known as a writer. Major Joseph Benson Collins, U. S. A., retired, was buried from his late home, at 1223 K street, this morning, in the Arlington Cemetery, with impressive military honors. Major Collins was born in this city and entered the army as a second lieutenant in 1848. He was promoted through the successive grades of brevetted major for gallantry at Bull Run and brevetted colonel for gallantry at Richmond, till he was retired in 1879 as major.

Mrs. George M. Oyster's funeral will take place from St. Peter's Church this morning, the remains being interred at Oak Hill.

Mr. Richmond's Real Estate Purchases.  
Mr. James Richmond, a retired Philadelphia capitalist, who has been taking some interest in Washington real estate, has made another heavy purchase, this time of suburban property. The deal was made through Mr. M. M. Parker and was the purchase of three lots in University Park, adjoining Justice Hall's place, and one lot on Columbia Heights, for which properties Mr. Richmond paid \$57,000.

It will be remembered that the gentleman who recently bought the Wright building for \$37,500, and the house 1301 K street for \$29,000, mentioned in which was made at the time in these columns.

Mr. Parker has also sold the property No. 625 F street northwest to Mrs. Lucia E. Biondi for \$28,000.

**An Aged Offender Pardoned.**  
Henry Smith, a very old man with numerous ailments, confined a little more than a year ago of horse stealing, has been pardoned by the President upon the condition of his going to New Orleans. He appeared to have an unquenchable desire to steal horses, as he was repeatedly guilty of this offense.

AMUSEMENTS.

**ALHAMBRA—"THE WOMEN OF THE GUARD."**  
Next week the lovers of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas will have a Christmas treat at Alhambra's in "The Women of the Guard," by Aronson's Comic Opera Company from the New York (London). This new opera was written by Gilbert and Sullivan, and has been talked about so much that everybody is anxious to hear it. It is rather more ambitious than the usual G. & S. work, but it is brilliant and funny and the same are "catchy." Among those in the cast are Mark Smith, Charles F. Lang, Edith Rose, James T. Powers, Charles J. Campbell, Richard Cummings, Misses Adelle Crenfield, Fannie Rose, Elma Delano and Lydia O'Neill. The costumes are by Dorian and Mue. Lee and the scenery by Thomas H. Weston.

**BAHNS' SHOW—"WE, U. S. & CO."**  
Manager Harris will present to his numerous patrons his Christmas attraction on Monday evening that funniest of all farce comedies, "We, U. S. & Co." Just at this season of the year we all want to be merry and are naturally attracted to those who try to make us so. The firm of "We, U. S. & Co." have for three years past run an annual visit of jollity, but heretofore have favored the higher priced National Theatre. However, Manager Harris, being over on the alert to secure something superior to the regular line of attractions for Christmas, induced the "We, U. S. & Co." management to play the Christmas week at his theatre by guaranteeing a large amount of money. T. Willie Rockingham's rotundity and his flaming face are always the cue for a hearty burst of laughter from the audience.

Then there is the absurd character, Dr. Mule Medicine, whose modesty forces him to accept all unpleasant situations with the familiar expression of "I ain't sayin' a word, am I?" Every sentence he utters is like a dose of medicine to the audience—it affects them pleasantly. They laugh, they roar, they scream. From the first to the last the peals of laughter succeed each other without intermission. The play, like all farce comedies as to plot, is without any to speak of, but spectators forget to look for a plot, the fun is so fast and furious, and do not care whether one exists or not. It is simply a matter of making the audience forget the existence of a plot, and the name of "We, U. S. & Co." are much more than doctors—getting rid of their patients, who comprise every variety of character, by sending them to Mud Springs, where they are treated to baths of various kinds, which give an opportunity for introducing any number of ridiculous situations.

The plot is as full of fun as a shad is full of bones, and without the least element of coarseness in either plot or execution. It is one of those things which one may enjoy at the time as a complete relaxation from the cares and toils of the day, and may recall afterward with a regret. The cast, comprising some sixteen people, who are recognized as artists of ability, viz: Charles B. Hawkins, the original Dr. Mule Medicine, and Lillian Hamilton, the original Bella Beldie, a bevy of pretty girls, bright and sparkling music, handsome dresses and talented comedians, all go to make a bright ensemble, which will not be improved on as a Christmas attraction. Being Christmas week, matinees will be given every day except on Monday. "We, U. S. & Co." is a bright musical melange, extremely nonsensical and ridiculously absurd, but so full of pure, wholesome humor, that the "Landing Room Only" should greet every one who seeks an entrance to the Alhambra after the rise of the curtain. There will be free special matinees given on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

**KEINAN'S—FRANK L. PRATNE.**  
A gala week next week at Keinan's with Frank L. Pratne and his unique company in "Kentucky Bill," the celebrated spectacular drama, some scenes in it are dramatic and new departure for Keinan's. Introduced in the play, which is in the hands of Mr. Pratne and a strong company of actors, are the four act play, "Jack O'Clock," "Dynamite" and "Tom," the thoroughbred horse, "Kentucky Boy," the biggest lion in the world; a troupe of twelve acrobats and a lion, which is a show to bring out all the enthusiasm of the border, and it will.

**Conference of Virginia Democrats.**  
A conference of about thirty leading Virginia Democrats was held yesterday at the National Hotel to discuss the prospects in the contest for the Democratic nomination for Senator-elect John S. Barbour, Hon. R. H. Cardwell, Hon. John E. Massey, Henry Heaton State Senators James Hay, John L. Hart, O. C. Jones, J. A. Brooke, J. T. Ryan and Congressman Wise and Venable.

**Burial Permits Issued.**  
Burial permits have been issued during the past twenty-four hours by the Health Officer, viz: Francis St. Ann Waggoner, 7 days; Patrick O'Connor, 62 years; Ellen Googins, 62 years; Victor L. Martin, 9 years; Mary Fields, 82 years; Mary Fox, 77 years; and the following colored: Blanche Taylor's month; Hannah, 20 years; William H. Johnson, 18 years; infant of Matilda Ford, 13 days.

**A Little Ahead of Time.**  
Rev. R. H. Robinson, pastor of the Mt. Zion M. E. Church, West Washington, was surprised last night by a number of his members, who loaded down his table with Christmas turkeys, vegetables, flour, sugar and canned goods, and Pastor Robinson is happy over his Santa Claus visit which came before the appointed time.

**Her Charges Denied.**  
A. R. Shepherd, with E. H. Thomas as counsel, today made answer to the divorce bill filed by his wife, denying her charges, and accuses her of cruelty and of wasteful habits. He also denies her charges of adultery, and says that she has by her accusations greatly injured his business of plumber.

**The Thieves' Keep Busy.**  
Somebody stole A. B. Dent's tricycle from in front of his house, at 645 A street northeast, last night.

H. F. Stanchell's watch was stolen from his room at Continental Hotel last night.

Mrs. Mary E. Stanchell's pocket was picked at Seventh street and Market space yesterday. Mrs. Arnold lives at 419 K street and there was \$4 in her pocketbook.

**Marriage Licenses.**  
Samuel Shott, Fredericktown, Va., and Ida R. Cooke, Robert V. Pryor and Martha L. Contee, W. T. Hemmings and Lucinda Diahman.

**Real Estate Transfers.**  
Cinderella M. Hawk to Lavina Hawk, \$2, parts lots 42 and 43, square 803, 1400 P. A. St., Ashford to Oliver Cox, \$2,500, square 210, square 102.

**Plano and Oliver Cox.**  
Holiday bargains in new and second-hand stock. Easy payments. E. G. SMITH, 1225 P. A. ST.

**FOR RECEPTIONS AND PARTIES.**  
SEASON PERKY.  
(Successor to Perry & Sons)

ELEGANT GOLD AND SILVER BROCADED AND STRIPED SATINS AND SILKS FOR RECEPTIONS AND PARTIES. SUPERIOR QUALITIES OF MOIRE PERAINS AND MOIRE ANTOILES IN ALL SHADES. EYED STAMPS AND EYED STRIPED SILK LACE IN FANCY SILK GAUZEES AND ILLUSIONS.

NEW "LA TOSCA" SILK NETS AND TINKLE NEW POINT D'ESPRIET AND MECHLIN SETS. NEW BLACK AND COLORED BRUSSELS. NEW GRUPE DE CHINES AND CANTON EVENING SILKS AND SATINS IN GREAT VARIETY AND AT LOWEST PRICES.

PRINCESS SILK LACE IN COLORED ROYAL ARMURES, FANCIE FRANCAISES AND GREEN GRASS SILK LACE IN FANCY ILLUSIONS. LACE IN FANCY SILK GAUZEES AND ILLUSIONS. NEW "LA TOSCA" SILK NETS AND TINKLE NEW POINT D'ESPRIET AND MECHLIN SETS. NEW BLACK AND COLORED BRUSSELS. NEW GRUPE DE CHINES AND CANTON EVENING SILKS AND SATINS IN GREAT VARIETY AND AT LOWEST PRICES.

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EARLY MORNING NEWS.

**Happenings of General Interest During the Past Twenty-four Hours.**  
Interesting revelations have been made concerning the smuggling operations by "Boss" Harris of Victoria, B. C., and his agents, Captain Durant and the Webster brothers, who transport nearly \$5,000,000 worth of opium across the border into the United States annually.

Senator Bessant, an Arabian Jew, who asserted that he was thrown into a Moorish dungeon while under the protection of the American Consul at Tangier, has come to this country to lay his case before the United States Government.

The race war has broken out again at Wabash, Miss., where it was thought peace was restored. The whites surrounded the colored fugitives in the hills, but, as they are outnumbered, will await reinforcements before beginning an attack.

A letter delivered in Zanzibar by Tipu Sultan's messenger gives news of Seydi, dated August 17, when he was on the Aruwimi, and had reached Emin eighty-two days before, and a telegram from St. Thomas, East Africa, pronounced the explorer and Emin safe.

Lord Salisbury was unable to make any explanation in the House of Lords last night with reference to the appointment of a successor to Lord Sackville.

Lord Salisbury announced last night that there would be no English Sudan expedition, though the British would hold all the Sudan, and the expedition was impossible under the treaty of Paris.

T. Tanner, M. P., was suspended in the House of Commons last night for calling Secretary Balfour a liar and a criminal.

The Buffalo jewelry firm of T. & E. Dickson has been robbed of a diamond bracelet valued at \$400 by two ladylike shoplifters.

A dinner was given at the National Club, Paris, last night, in honor of Mr. McLaughlin, the American Minister.

A blizzard is raging in Ottawa; trains are delayed and the thermometer is at zero.

**Morning Telegrams.**  
Fire broke out at 12 o'clock last night on the sixth floor of the building southeast corner of Court and Elm streets, Cincinnati, occupied by L. J. Strobel & Co., jewelers. The loss will be heavy, as the firm carried a large stock.

Thomas Keenan of Zanesville, O., a conductor on the Cleveland, Akron and Columbus train No. 33, was standing on the platform talking to the brakeman after his train had passed Dresden Junction last evening, when he fell in a fainting fit, rolled under the cars and was cut to pieces.

The Exchange Hotel, a three-story frame building in Missouri, burned to the ground last night, together with a frame building occupied by Pat McLaughlin as a saloon. Railroad men named Collins and a friend of his, named Johnson, are supposed to have perished in the flames. Calculated losses and fragments of human flesh were found in the ruins.

More than 300 guests sat down last night at the banquet of the New England Society of Brooklyn in the Brooklyn Academy of Music. John Winthrop, the first governor of the colony, Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage, Congressman Burroughs of Massachusetts, Congressman Burroughs of Michigan and Congressman Allen of Mississippi.

**The Women Who Smoke.**  
From N. Y. Times.  
A dowager of this city, who ought to know what she speaks of, says that the habit of smoking is not unknown among the members of the fair sex in fashionable society. She declares that she has frequently seen the incense arising from groups of them, and also in the privacy of her own household. She says that cigarette smokers are mostly favored, but that some of them go so far as to indulge in cigars. According to her account, there are married ladies who have fallen into the habit through the example of their husbands, who are aware of the fact. In truth, it cannot be easy for any lady who smokes to conceal the offense from those who enjoy familiar intercourse with her, for the fumes of the weed penetrate the garments and hover around the bodies of all who use it, and are easily detected by any one who has an acute sense of smell. In several of the countries of Europe smoking is often practiced by women of the poorer classes, and in Turkey and Persia it is almost universal. But we think that few gentlemen in the United States will confirm the assertions made by a dowager of this city about the use of tobacco by American ladies.

**The Vintage in France.**  
From the Paris Herald.  
The vintage in the vineyards of our vine-growing districts, and Heaven be praised, the fears of the summer are not realized. In spite of the heavy rains in July, there is a capital average crop. This year, at any rate, the Paris cellars need not be filled from Brussels, the important factory which is built upon the precipitous slopes of the Ardennes, and the growers of Bordeaux, especially, are at the top of the tide. The American stocks have for the first time yielded abundantly in the Medoc district, defining puyoluxia, mildew, black rot, and all other scourges ancient and modern. The revived prosperity of the Bordeaux vintage is an important event in the eyes of our Paris epures, to whom the flavor of local Bordeaux (the claret) had become a too costly luxury. It is not everybody who can go to Voisin's to drink the famous Chateau-Lafite, at a hundred francs a bottle, which he first put on his wife last a few days ago.

**A Thrifty Legislator.**  
From the Atlanta Journal.  
The Georgia Legislature has ten cents for each mile coming to and going from the session. This amounts to a snug little pile to some of the members who live in the far corners of the State. Last year a colored member received \$75 in mileage, and he was in the city fifty-seven days. He lived on this sum, and at the end of the session he had "per diem," \$4 per day, in an untouched lump.

SURPRISING HIS PALATE.

**How Fernando Wood Inspired Himself During a Speech.**  
From the New York Sun.  
"Speaking about stimulants," said Benjamin F. Hitchcock, the music publisher, yesterday, "reminds me of a curious habit of Fernando Wood, once a Mayor of this city. Some time in the '60s he addressed a literary society of which I was a member, in the old Broadway Tabernacle, which was then situated on Broadway near Lispenard street.

Mr. Wood talked about Alexander Hamilton, and as it was my duty on behalf of the society to thank him for his kindness, in addressing the society, I stood up. Upon the table, beside the speaker, stood a pitcher and two tumblers. At frequent intervals during his talk Mr. Wood poured a little of the contents of the pitcher into the tumbler and tossed it. I noticed that after each drink Mr. Wood became more animated, his periods were more glowing, his manner more assured.

"As the time drew near for me to make the speech of acknowledgment I became very thirsty. My tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth. I stood it as long as I could, and then, fearing that I should be unable to talk when my turn came, I boldly stepped on beside the speaker, poured a tumbler three-quarters full of the liquid, raised it to my lips, and, astonished his palate. Half of the contents of the glass had gone down the little red lane before my palate telegraphed to my brain that something was wrong.

"However, I finished the glass and sat down. Then I felt an insidious influence stealing along my blood and pulsing in my brain. My courage, which had become weaker and weaker as I drank a new backbone. I could have faced a Numidian lion. I have had considerable experience as a crator since then, but never have I equalled that attempt. The liquid in the pitcher was gin."

**AN ACTRESS' TOILET.**  
The Dresses Worn by Mlle. Bartet at the Comedie Francaise.

Mademoiselle Bartet's dresses in "Pepa," which has just been brought out at the Comedie Francaise, were hailed with a cry of admiration and envy from every woman in the house, says the Paris Herald. In the first act, where she is playing a call, she wears a dress with a train of partridge gray velvet of the strictest Louis XVI. cut, opening over a petticoat of bright nasturtium-orange, magnificently embroidered with silk and steel; a band of gray feathers borders the fronts.

A small round hat with a gray velvet edge almost entirely lost under a pile of gray feathers, and among them a blue bow. A tiny muff, also of gray feathers.

In the second act she is at home and wears a tea gown of Japanese shape in pink satin, lined and embroidered with blue and green. The skirt, which is long behind, opens over a satin petticoat hardly tinged with pink and covered with "mousseline de soie," trimmed with Mecklin lace fringe round her neck is a collar of sable, and on one side with a pink bow—hair dressed in the Louis XVI. style, but without powder.

The marvelous dressmaking was valued by the ladies near me at from 200 francs to 1,800 francs. But do not rush to the conclusion that Mademoiselle Bartet is extravagant. As a matter of fact the Comedie Francaise, reversing the practice of all other theatres, pays for every item of the costumes, dresses, and their stockings of their false hair. This is indeed a royal largesse, as may be gathered from this one fact: Mme. Pieron, who is paid only 6,000 francs at the Francaise, while she drew 48,000 at the Vaudeville, had the costume of the apartment lost. At the Vaudeville the dresses cost her on an average 15,000 francs a year.

**Eight Fascinating Girls.**  
Brought to N. Y. Sun.  
While other sections of this healthy corner of the country are bustling about, elderly ladies of great industry, capillaries, Belfast, down in Waldo County, points with pride to a whole family of women who are not only very smart, but young into the bargain. These are eight sisters, and they carry on quite an extensive farm just outside of Belfast. Their mother is dead, and their father is barely able to do a few chores about the place, so that all the farm work practically is done by the girls. They keep several cows, a horse, four oxen that are quartered, 500 hens, and thirteen cats, ducks and geese, and, in the winter, which season only two of them are at home, the others being employed in Boston, two as teachers in the public schools, all spend their summer at home and have as much time as any well-run farm. The reason for the four oxen on the place are never sold is because they are so good for the farm. The reason why they are not sold for beef is that by the sisters. If there are any young men in the neighborhood who are looking for a good "get up and get" to them, as they say out West, the vicinity of Belfast will be found good prospecting ground.

Immense bargains to be had at Hamburger's Fire and Smoke Sale.

**DIED.**  
OYSTER.—On Wednesday, December 19, 1888, at 1030 1/2 Adams street, N. W., beloved wife of George W. Oyster.

Funeral services at 10 o'clock, from her late residence, 212 East Capitol street, Saturday, December 22, at 9:30 a. m.; then to St. Peter's Church, where Requiem will be said. Interment at Oak Hill Cemetery.

**CHAND SACRIFICIAL SALE!**  
CLOSING-OUT SALE OF WINTER GOODS.

**MARKED-DOWN PRICES OF DRESS GOODS.**  
Owing to the unusual amount of warm weather, we find ourselves with a large stock of Winter Dress Goods, and in order to reduce our stock we have decided to sell our goods at the following desirable prices:

French modiste reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.00. French dress reduced from \$1.00 to \$1.00. French dress reduced from \$1.00 to \$1.00. French dress reduced from \$1.00 to \$1.00.

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A SERIOUS CHARGE.

**Did Director Billings Use Illegal Methods to Secure the Detroit Men?**  
"Jim" White, the veteran ball player, says, in reference to the deal which Director Billings of Boston tried to make with the Detroit players last October:

"Well, the Detroit players in Washington on October 11, 12 and 13, while in the Capital George Applegate, who was interested in the club and is a business man of Boston, came to me and said: 'We had something important to communicate from Director Billings of the Boston club. On October 12, I think it was (long previous to the date on which players can be approached), Brotherton, Rowe and myself met Applegate and a man he had brought along to act as a witness, in a room in the Willard Hotel, and he laid his proposition before us and a startling one it was. He said Billings had authorized him to make all arrangements.